Welcome - Meeting called to order by Mr. T.J. Parks, NMAA Board of Directors President, at 9:30 am. A roll call was conducted by Ms. Jacquelyne Martinez, NMAA Assistant Director, and the following members were present:

Mr. Anthony Casados (Small Area A)  
Mr. Jaime Widner (Small Area B)  
Mr. Bill Green (Small Area C)  
Ms. Lesa Dodd (Small Area D)  
Mr. Kirk Carpenter (Large Area A)  
Mr. T.J. Parks (Large Area B - President)  
Mr. Travis Dempsey (Large Area C)  
Dr. Greg Ewing (Large School District II)  
Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMAA Commission)

Not present:  
Ms. Yvonne Garcia (Large School District I) *representing Ms. Raquel Reedy  
Ms. Dana Sanders (Large Area D)  
Dr. Crit Caton (At-Large Member)  
Ms. Jennifer Viramontes (NM School Board Association)

Nine members present representing a quorum.

Approval of the Agenda:  
Mr. Parks asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Widner made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Casados seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).

Approval of Minutes:  
Mr. Parks asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 27, 2017 Board Meeting as presented. Ms. Dodd made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Green seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).

Affirmation of Board Members:  
Mr. Parks requested affirmation of representatives Ms. Raquel Reedy (Large School District I), Dr. Greg Ewing (Large School District II), Ms. Jennifer Viramontes (NM School Board Association), and Mr. Ernie Viramontes (NMAA Commission) in accordance with NMAA Bylaw 2.2.1.C.1. The Board affirmed these four representatives.

NMAA Executive Directors’ Report:  
Ms. Sally Marquez, NMAA Executive Director, discussed six (6) items on her report: 1) welcomed back Alissa Wesbrook, NMAA Assistant to the Executive Director, from maternity leave; 2) introduced Mr. Travis Dempsey, Ms. Jennifer Viramontes, and Mr. Ernie Viramontes as new NMAA board members; 3) stated that her thoughts were with Aztec High School and their community; 4) provided an update on House Bill 51; 5) provided info on the upcoming winter championships; and 6) introduced J.P. Murrieta as a new NMAA staff member.
NMAA Financial Report:
Ms. Shari Kessler-Schwaner, NMAA Business Manager, discussed one (1) item on her report:
1) the financials and ticket sales information for fall championships.

NMAA Activities Report:
Ms. Dana Pappas, NMAA Deputy Director, presented the activities report. She discussed four (4) items on her report: 1) the many activity events that start in February and run thru April; 2) the first NMAA sanctioned Educators Rising state event; 3) classification as it pertains to activities; and 4) nominations and applications for the NMAA Student Leadership Advisory Council are due March 1.

NMOA Report:
Ms. Pappas presented the officials report. She discussed seven (7) items on her report: 1) winter sports officials appreciation week; 2) the first NMOA State Baseball and Softball Clinic; 3) the NMOA State Clinic will be July 20-21; 4) the January NMOA Executive Board Meeting; 5) the current officials shortage; 6) the battlefields2ballfields initiative; and 7) increasing the mileage payment for officials.

General Discussion / Information Items:
Arbiter Pay: Ms. Pappas discussed the continued issues with timely pay in parts of the state for officials. Many schools use ArbiterPay, which pays officials withing 24 hours of a game. Most of the central region in all sports is using a paymaster system which cuts checks every other week. ArbiterPay charges a per official/per game fee while PayMasters charge per the season.

Officials recruitment: Ms. Pappas discussed officials recruitment. There was a proposal brought to the NMOA by one of the officials regarding using parents to officiate C-team contests with an aim toward recruitment, education of fans, and a hope for improved sportsmanship. The NMOA will be forming a committee of coaches, officials, and athletic directors to look at this issue and others regarding recruitment and retention.

Football – 8-Man Scheduling: Ms. Marquez discussed current issues with the scheduling of regular season games within 8-Man football. Many of the northern schools do not want to travel to play teams in the south. This is forcing some football teams to play teams twice during a season. The Board suggested revisiting an 8-man classic so that multiple teams could come to a neutral/central site in the early part of the season.

Scholastic Eligibility: Ms. Marquez discussed scholastic eligibility. She reported that NMAA has posted a document on its website that outlines the changes implemented for the 2018-2019 school year.

Ms. Marquez discussed the venue/facility for the state soccer championships. She reported that there was a scheduling conflict at the Bernalillo Soccer Complex for the Saturday of the state event and that the NMAA is working on alternatives that include UNM, St. Pius, and Las Cruces, or moving the event to Wednesday-Friday. The Board provided positive feedback regarding the Wednesday-Friday option so that the event could be held at the same facility.

PlayVS: Ms. Marquez discussed PlayVS (e-games). She stated that PlayVS is providing funding to state associations that sanction e-games as an official activity. The NFHS Network will be
holding a symposium in February to provide more information about this endeavor. The Board showed interest in this possibility and would like to continue discussions at its next meeting.

Middle School / Junior High Championships: Ms. Marquez discussed Middle School and Junior High State Championships. She reported that several other state associations are now sanctioning these events in sports like cross country, track, wrestling, & spirit. The board provided feedback outlining both pros and cons for this topic.

Action Items:
Baseball, Basketball, Football, Softball - State Qualifiers: Ms. Marquez asked the board to consider adjustments to NMAA bylaws that would update the number of state tournament qualifiers for 2018-2020 in the sports of baseball, basketball, football, and softball. Qualifying numbers would be as follows: Class A Baseball – 4, Class 2A-5A Baseball – 16, Class A-5A Basketball – 16, Class A/2A-5A Softball – 16, Class 6-Man Football – 6, Class 8-Man & 2A-6A Football – 12. Mr. Parks asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Green made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Widner seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed (6-3).

Track – Fully Automated Timing (FAT): (Referenda Item): Ms. Marquez asked the board to consider adjustment to NMAA Track Bylaw 7.22.1.L so that Fully Automated Timing (FAT) is a requirement for state qualifying meets across all classes. Mr. Parks asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Green made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and failed (4-5). The board did recommend that this item be placed as an agenda item for Class 3A only at a future meeting.

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Cross Country – State Qualifiers: Ms. Martinez, asked the board members to consider adjusting the number of state qualifiers for the A/2A classification. The new qualifying numbers would be the top six teams in each district plus the top four individual district meet finishers from non-qualifying teams. Mr. Parks asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Carpenter made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Viramontes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).

Football – Days of Practice Prior to Scrimmage: (Referenda Item): Mr. Young asked the board members to consider adjustment to NMAA Football Bylaw 7.15.1.B.3 (& 9.8.4.A.3) so that schools/athletes may participate in a scrimmage after eight (8) days of practice. Mr. Parks asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Widner made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Dempsey seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).

Football – Mid School / Junior High start date for 6/8-Man: (Referenda Item): Mr. Billy Burns, Logan High School Athletic Director, asked the board members to consider adjustment to NMAA Football Bylaw 9.8.4.A.1 so that 6 & 8-Man schools could start middle school / junior high football practice one week earlier (Week #6 instead of Week #7). Mr. Parks asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Green made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Widner seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).

AED-EAP requirements for state event hosts: Mr. Owen, NMAA Assistant Director, asked the board members to consider requiring any athletic venue hosting state-level contests to have a venue-specific Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and an accessible Automated External Defibrillator (AED) during state-level contests. Additionally, require the same in the activities of Bowling, JROTC, and Rodeo. Mr. Parks asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Carpenter made the motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Casados seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).

Executive Session:
Mr. Parks asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for purposes of discussing legal, financial, and personnel matters at 11:09 pm. A motion was made by Ms. Dodd. Mr. Widner seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).

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Mr. Parks asked for a motion to exit out of Executive Session at 12:00 pm. Mr. Green made the motion to exit from Executive Session. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).
Consider Adjournment:
Mr. Parks asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 pm. Mr. Green made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (9-0).

Next Board Meeting – May 31, 2018 (NMAA)